



City News ❄️

City of Waterville

November/December 2009

Employee Recognition Dinner

On Friday, October 23, City employees and guests gathered at the Elks Lodge Banquet Center for the 16th Annual Employee Recognition Dinner. This event is an evening dedicated solely to recognition of City of Waterville employees. Following a social 1/2 hour, Mayor Paul LePage addressed everyone with a warm welcome and announced that dinner was served. New this year, guests enjoyed an employee slideshow created by Lt. Scott Holst of the Fire Department. The Recognition Committee, along with Mike Roy, then started the post-dinner portion of the evening with drawing the winners of the 50/50 raffle. *Congratulations to Linda Cote and Mark Turner, who each won \$91.00!*

The recognition segment of the evening kicked off with acknowledging new employees, then awarding those who had used no sick time over the last fiscal year with a certificate for a day off. Certificates

and tokens of appreciation were distributed to full-time employees reaching milestone years with the City. Excerpts from nominations submitted by employee who recognized their co-workers were read and plaques were given to recipients in each of the following award categories: **Above and Beyond**, Kathleen Kenney-Haley (Police Dept.); **Community**, Todd Burbank (Police Dept.); **Optimist**, Joey Meunier (Public Works Dept.) and **Visionary**, Mike Roy, (Administration).

The grand finale was the announcement of the **2009 Employee of the Year** awarded



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:
Robert Gilchrist

to Robert Gilchrist of Public Works. *Congratulations, Bob!* The evening was a success thanks to City employees and their guests, the Elks Lodge, Yankee Trophy, B & B Embroidery and the Employee Recognition Committee for their hard work behind the scenes and at the event.

Manager's Minutes



I am happy to report on one of the best kept recreation secrets in the City of Waterville – the Quarry Road Recreation Trail.

Recently completed this fall, this 4.5 KM (3 mile) long trail will be open to cross country skiing, snowshoeing and walking as soon as the snow flies. We hope to expand the trail in 2010 making it one of the best multi-purpose trails in New England.

Located on property purchased from Colby College, this new trail parallels Messalonskee Stream and courses up to the old Colby ski slope. The trail is 20 ft. wide and well graded for

easy walking/skiing.

I encourage you to visit the Quarry Road Recreation Area which can be reached by taking the Quarry Road, located adjacent to Maine General Hospital on North Street. Simply go to the end of the road, park and look for the signs. I think you will be pleasantly surprised at what you find.



Upcoming Holidays

All City departments, except emergency services, will be **CLOSED** in observance of the following holidays as shown:

Veteran's Day
November 11



Thanksgiving
November 26/27



Christmas
December 25

New Year's
January 1

For holiday rubbish collection info, please visit the City's Public Works web page at:
www.waterville-me.gov/departments/pw OR call: 680-4744



Parks & Recreation News

Hello to everyone from the Parks and Recreation Department. Now that the grass has (finally) stopped growing we're able to get to other fall maintenance tasks that must be completed before the snow and freezing weather arrive. Fall projects will include winterization of all indoor/outdoor facilities, tree pruning, bush-hogging and playground maintenance.

Quarry Road Recreation Area

The 4.5 kilometer multi-purpose trail is complete. Contractor, Jake Voter (Applied Forestry) closed-out the trail project mid-October. All of us who have been involved with the project could not be more pleased with the finished product. The trail is now closed to all user groups so that seed can establish itself and firm up the surface for next year.

Connector Trail

Unfortunately, this bicycle and pedestrian trail that will connect North Street Recreation Area to Head of Falls will not be completed this year as planned. We intend to begin construction for this trail summer 2010.

Focus Day & Civic Day

During the month of October we had two community events that highlighted young people and their roles in the community. Focus Day was held Wednesday, October 7, at the North Street Recreation Area. A group of 40-50 Waterville High sophomores volunteered to help clean-up the park, playground, picnic shelters and trail. They did a great job and we appreciate the help. Civic Day was held Friday, October 9. We paired ten students from the Alford Youth Center's after-school program with City Officials (aka Mentors) for the day. The morning began with a short ceremony in Castonguay Sq. recognizing the POW-MIA memorial. We then went to Council Chambers where Arlene swore-in the students. The students (acting as Mayor and Councilors) prepared a Resolution to add a 5¢ tax to every gallon of gas to help fund a cure for cancer. The Resolution passed 7-0! Next, students joined us at our job sites to get a feel for what we do. The day ended with lunch at the Boys and Girls Club and a keynote address regarding community involvement/volunteerism from United Way President-CEO Tina Chapman. I can only speak for myself, but I sense that the Mentors enjoyed the day just as much as the kids! Special thanks to all who participated.



North Street Tennis Court Repave

North Street Tennis Court Repave

The North Street courts were recently re-paved, thanks to help from Mark Turner and John Lombardi. Large cracks in the pavement and heaving posts would have made the courts unusable in another year or so. We intend to repaint the courts in the spring of 2010. When complete, this will be another facility that Waterville can be proud of.

– Matt Skehan, Director



Caitlin Grenier on a Parks and Rec ATV on Civic Day

Library Groundbreaking

On the morning of Thursday, October 22, the Waterville Public Library celebrated the beginning of their renovation project with a public groundbreaking ceremony. Due to inclement weather, the ceremony was held inside. Library supporters look forward to the many renovations to be made over the next several months. For more information visit:

www.waterville.lib.me.us/CapitalCampaign.htm



Mayor LePage with Sarah Sugden, Librarian, during the groundbreaking ceremony

New Faces



Damon Lefferts began his career as a Patrol Officer for the Police Dept. on Sept. 9



Reminder:

Don't forget to set your clocks back on Sunday, Nov. 1st!





From the Police Files...

On Sept. 9, 2009, City Clerk Arlene Strahan officially swore in the Waterville Police Department's newest patrol officer, Damon Lefferts. Officer Lefferts is a graduate of Thomas College, where he attended the Maine Criminal Justice Academy as a tuition student. Damon has worked for both the Augusta and Winslow Police Departments, and his hiring brings the Police Department to full strength, with every officer having completed the 18-week Academy. Damon comes to Waterville with enthusiasm, education and experience, and we are glad to have him onboard. Make sure to welcome Damon to the City of Waterville family when you see him!



Damon Lefferts sworn-in by City Clerk, Arlene Strahan

In the past month, the Police Department has been extremely busy. From working with other area law enforcement agencies on one of the biggest drug busts in decades, to working with the Fire Department and Fire Marshal's Office to investigate a number of soda bottle acid-bombs, both the Patrol and Detective Divisions have been working hard to keep up with the pace.



Clean Hands Campaign

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs. **How should you wash your hands?**

- Use soap and warm, running water
- Rinse hands well under warm, running water
- Lather/wash thoroughly, including wrists, palms, back of hands, fingers and under nails, for at least 15-20 seconds
- Dry hands thoroughly with a clean paper or cloth towel or air dryer
- Apply lotion if desired to help prevent and soothe dry skin

Hand sanitizers are a good alternative to use when soap and water are not available. However, when hands are visibly soiled, they should be washed with soap and water.



Portable Heater Hazards

Portable electric and fuel-fired heaters have grown in popularity over the past two decades. This has come at a great cost, however. Misuse and malfunctions of portable heaters accounts for one fifth of all structure fires. Over 30,000 people are injured and killed annually in the U.S. from portable heater related fires. Below are some pointers to avoid having a heater-caused fire.

- Make sure that your heater hasn't been the subject of a safety recall. Check the Consumer Product Safety Commission website: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel.html
- Every heater has a minimum clearance distance to combustible material. Refer to your operator's manual for exact requirements.
- DO NOT use extension cords with electric heaters. This greatly compounds the risk of fire!
- Use only heaters with "tip over protection" that shut off automatically when tilted. Unplug or shutoff at night and when not in use.

Local Events

Downtown Farmers' Market



Thursdays thru November 20
2:00 – 6:00 PM

www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org

Kid Lover's Holiday Ball

Friday, Nov. 6 • 9 PM-12 AM

Champions Banquet Center

FMI: 873--0684



Comedian Bob Marley

Saturday, Nov. 7 • 7 PM & 9 PM

Waterville Opera House

FMI: www.operahouse.org

Veteran's Day Parade

Wednesday, Nov. 11

10:30 AM-12:30 PM

College Ave, Main & Front Streets

Festival of Lights



Friday, Nov. 27 • 4 PM-8 PM

Main Street to Castonguay Square

FMI: www.watervilemainstreet.org

Mrs. Santa's Workshop

Friday, Nov. 27 • 4 PM-8 PM

REM Forum, 93 Main Street

FMI: rem@rem1.org

Portland Pirates Trip

Saturday, Dec. 5 • 5:00 PM

Cumberland County Civic Ctr.

FMI: www.waterville-me.gov/parks

Her Own Beat; Adventure Girls Series

Saturday, Dec. 5 • 1 PM-3 PM

Hardy Girls Healthy Women

FMI: www.hghw.org

The Nutcracker Ballet

Fri. & Sat., Dec. 11, 12 • 7:30 PM &

Sunday, Dec. 13 • 2:00 PM

Waterville Opera House

FMI: www.operahouse.org

